

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
William S. Duckwall, et al.)
Application No.:)
Filing Date: December 29, 2000)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
THE ADDITION AND REMOVAL OF)
NODES FROM A COMMON INTERCONNECT)
Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the present application, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, between lines 3 and 4, please insert the following:

-- This application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/330,896, filed June 11, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. _____), which is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/186,921, filed November 6, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,935,208), which is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/889,814, filed July 8, 1997 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,875,301), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/359,294, filed December 19, 1994. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-27, 29, and 32-34 before calculating the filing fee in the present application. Claims 28 and 30-31 remain pending.

Please charge any shortages or credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 12/29, 2000



James C. Scheller, Jr.

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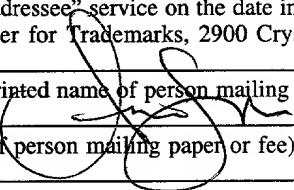
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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William S. Duckwall, et al.) Examiner: Not yet assigned
Application No.:) Art Unit: Not yet assigned
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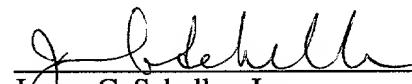
SUBMISSION OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a complete set of formal drawings, comprising twenty-five (25) sheets and thirty (30) figures for the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 12/29, 2000


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